

# INDEMNITY QUESTION

Ministers at Peking Looking Up China's Financial Resources.

MAY DEMAND \$180,000,000

Some of Them Opposed to Making China Pay Cash.

## NOTICE TO RUSSIA

PEKIN, April 3.—The ministers are considering proposals submitted by financial experts for the raising of a sufficient sum for the payment of the Chinese indemnity. It is probable that the scheme of Sir Robert Hart, director of the Imperial Maritime Customs, which provides for the handing of the salt and liquor taxes over to the maritime customs administration and the levying of an annual house tax equal to one-half a month's rent, which, it is calculated, will provide 20,000,000 taels yearly, sufficient to pay 5 per cent interest on 250,000,000 taels and clear the whole of the principal in less than forty years.

Two hundred and fifty million taels is equivalent, roughly estimated, at \$26,000,000, but the total amount of the indemnity is likely to be much more.

Some of the powers are greatly averse to compelling China to contract a loan for the payment of the indemnity.

It is thought that the increased cost of raising money required in that way is likely to hamper the commercial development of China, and it is therefore desired to be desirable to have money raised internally in China.

### Formal Notice to Russia.

The Chinese government has formally notified Russia that China, owing to the attitude of the power, is not able to sign the Manchurian convention.

"It is China's desire," says the formal notification, "to keep on friendly terms with all nations. At present she is going through a period which is the most perilous in the empire's history, and it is necessary that she should have the friendship of all."

However much she might be willing to grant any special privilege to any power, when others object it is impossible that for the sake of making one nation friendly she should alienate the sympathies of all others.

Li Hung Chang says this letter settles the matter definitely, and that Russia will formally notify to the same effect March 23.

Prince Ching asserts that every Chinese official who signs the convention is signing the convention.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says: The correspondence is informed by a trustworthy authority that the Manchurian convention has not yet been signed. M. Delcasse, the French minister of foreign affairs, has expressed here on April 3, that the treaty is reported in China, that the treaty has received a telegram from the court to the effect that a peaceable settlement of the affair is desired.

Li is described as much disturbed by the court to the effect that a peaceable settlement of the affair is desired.

LONDON, April 4.—"The Japanese press continues very bellicose," says the Yokohama correspondent of the Daily Mail, "yesterday."

"Count Okuma (formerly premier and now leader of the opposition) declares, in the course of an amicable article, that Japan must assert herself, and that the years will be lost. Korea, he says, is not a Russian chattel, and Russia's action is a direct challenge to her."

### ALLEGED COMMISSARY FRAUDS.

Doubt as to the character of the Report of the Commission.

General MacArthur's dispatch, as well as other information received concerning the alleged commissary frauds, leaves considerable doubt as to the exact character of these alleged peculations. General MacArthur speaks of "sales." These sales consist of savings by the soldiers on the regular rations issued, which they are allowed to dispose of for their own benefit.

Generally the savings health department clerk and formerly secretary to Clarke Howell of the Atlanta Constitution, who mysteriously disappeared from his home in Washington more than a week ago, was found today at the Norfolk Union Mission in the lower part of the city.

He had been there since Tuesday. Wilbur, when seen, said he had no idea when or why he left Washington, and that he was in some Norfolk church on Sunday last when his reason returned. He said he did not know, however, where he stayed on Monday night, and he remembered but little before his arrival at the mission Tuesday.

# BRITISH LOSSES IN MARCH

LIST OF THE CASUALTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Portuguese Show Marked Favor to Boers and Insult Lord Carrington in Lisbon.

LONDON, April 4.—The British casualties in South Africa continue high. The totals for the month of March are: Killed, 9 officers and 103 men; wounded, 26 officers and 270 men.

Diagrams received here from Paris reiterate the stories of affronts to Lord Carrington and his suite while returning from Lisbon, after formally announcing King Edward's accession to King Charles of Portugal. It seems that the train on which the mission traveled conveyed a number of nurses returning from the Boer army. The result, says a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Paris, was that at every station there were violent anti-British scenes. Lord Carrington and his suite were openly insulted, while the nurses were greeted with loud cheers and to the accompaniment of music.

The letter of Gen. Botha, the Boer commander-in-chief, to Lord Carrington, commanding the British forces in South Africa, preliminary to the recent peace meeting, casually referred to in Lieut. Gen. Kitchener's report of the negotiations, and from which the opponents of Colonel Secretary Chamberlain hoped to obtain some view of the recent failure of the conference, was published as a parliamentary paper this morning. The letter is dated at the commandant general's camp, February 24, and commences with a reference to "the honorable mission of your excellency."

Continuing, the letter says: "I have the honor to inform your excellency that the British mission has been do to bring this bloody strife to an end. I would also very much like to meet your excellency for the purpose of mutual discussion to see how the dispute can be covered terms under which this can be done."

The remainder of the letter of Gen. Botha is so important and merely suggests a place of meeting and arrangements for the guarantee of safe conduct.

### SURFMAN EXONERATED.

Investigation of the Wreck of the City of Rio de Janeiro.

The testimony taken at the investigation authorized by the Treasury Department into the circumstances connected with the wreck of the steamer City of Rio de Janeiro on February 22, 1901, to determine whether the loss of life was due to any neglect or failure of duty on the part of the officers or employees of the life-saving service, has been received and considered at the department.

It will be remembered that several days after the disaster, while the coroner's inquest over the bodies of the two drowned was in progress, Mark Ellingsen, a surferman of the Port Point life-saving station, who was on watch in the lookout some hours of 4 and 5 o'clock on the morning of the disaster, during which time it occurred, was reported to have confessed that he had neglected his duty and neglected to telephone the fact to the station.

The verdict of the coroner's jury, according to the published accounts, held the captain, James H. Smith, and the other officers and crew of the ship responsible for the loss of life. A similar finding by the board of life-saving inspectors of steamers is said to be the result of its investigation of the wreck.

As soon as the report of Ellingsen's alleged confession was received he was suspended from duty and the vessel was under notice directed. The testimony is voluminous, but entirely exonerates Surferman Ellingsen, and orders have been telegraphed to restore him to duty.

"It is proved beyond question," the report says, "that at no time was any signal made by the steamer City of Rio de Janeiro as a signal of distress. This is shown conclusively by the testimony of the keepers of the life-saving stations on watch at the Port Point, Lime Point and other life-saving stations. They all testify that it is a part of their duty, upon hearing any signal of distress, to sound the alarm and to send a signal of distress to the life-saving stations. The evidence shows that they heard the signal of distress and that they sent the signal upon many occasions and the life-saving crews have always responded promptly. The evidence shows that they heard the signal of distress and that they sent the signal upon many occasions and the life-saving crews have always responded promptly."

### CUSTOMS COLLECTIONS.

Report of the Collector at San Juan, Porto Rico.

G. W. Whitehead, collector of customs at San Juan, P. R., recently submitted to Governor Allen a statement of imports and exports for Porto Rico from May 1, 1900, to February 28, 1901. This shows total imports free of duty of \$3,369,275, which \$3,546,852 was from the United States and \$2,300,000 from all other countries. The total of dutiable imports was \$4,522,248, of which \$2,906,126 was from the United States and \$1,616,062 from all other countries. On the other hand, the total exports of \$1,936,370 in duties was collected and from other countries \$267,450.

The exports from Porto Rico were \$5,814,062, of which \$4,000,000 was sent to the United States and \$2,423,572 to other countries.

### FOR THE DEFENSE.

Opening Statement by Attorney for Liston D. Bass.

The introduction of testimony for the defendant was begun today in Criminal Court No. 1 in the case of Liston D. Bass, on trial under indictments of Clarke Howell of the Atlanta Constitution, who mysteriously disappeared from his home in Washington more than a week ago, was found today at the Norfolk Union Mission in the lower part of the city.

He had been there since Tuesday. Wilbur, when seen, said he had no idea when or why he left Washington, and that he was in some Norfolk church on Sunday last when his reason returned. He said he did not know, however, where he stayed on Monday night, and he remembered but little before his arrival at the mission Tuesday.

Wilbur declared he had drunk nothing since he left home, because he said he is a deacon and president of the Christian Endeavor Society of the Eastern Presbyterian Church in Washington. He declined to discuss the matter of writing to his wife from Norfolk nor any of his other actions since his arrival here, saying he desired no publicity to be given the matter.

Though he speaks rationally, Wilbur's mind seems to wander. He will be sent back to Washington tonight. Wilbur spoke in a religious manner, giving his Christian experience.

Inspector Boardman received a telegram from the chief of the Norfolk force this morning asking what disposition to make of Wilbur. The inspector communicated with Wilbur's relatives and informed the Norfolk police that the young man's brother-in-law would leave here for Norfolk on this evening's boat. He will be accompanied by Detective Howitt.

### The President to Be Present.

Judge Advocate General Lemly has received a telegram from Commander Brown at San Francisco stating that the Union Iron Works will launch the battle ship Ohio May 18. The president has been informed that President McKinley and his cabinet will be present at the launching.

### To Take Charge of Medical Exhibit.

Captain E. L. Munson, assistant surgeon, has been relieved from duty at Washington barracks, D. C., and ordered to Buffalo, N. Y., to assume charge of the exhibit of the medical department of the army at the Pan-American exposition.

### Mr. Scott's Resignation Accepted.

The Secretary of the Treasury has accepted the resignation of Norman D. Scott, naval officer, of the port of Baltimore.

# STOUND STEAMER AGROUND

CHESTER W. CHAPIN STUCK IN PROVIDENCE HARBOR.

Passengers Taken to New Haven by the Bay Queen—No Casualties.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 4.—The Chester W. Chapin went ashore at about 9:35 last night, as she was feeling her way out from Providence, but it was several hours before the news was received in this city. At first it was thought that the steamer could release herself, as she was proceeding at slow speed, but after several trials with reversed engines the efforts were discontinued and two of the steamer's officers started in a small boat for Warwick Neck light house on the west shore of the bay, whence they communicated with the city by telephone.

As soon as possible two of the Providence Towboat company's tug were dispatched to the island. The Providence, Fall River and Newport line also sent the Bay Queen from Newport to take off the passengers and to render any assistance possible. The tug took positions on either side of the Chapin, and for several hours they strained and pulled on the stranded craft, but without success.

When it was seen that the steamer would be delayed for some time, the passengers, who had suffered no discomfort and had had no serious evidence of panic, were informed that they would be taken off. They were transferred to the Bay Queen and brought to this city.

A special train was made up as speedily as possible, and the travelers started for New York by rail early today.

The officers of the steamer line think that the vessel is not seriously damaged, and that she will be floated during the day. The passengers of the steamer, however, do not think that the vessel is in any danger, and they are all well.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 4.—Passengers from the wrecked steamer Chester W. Chapin passed through New Haven at 8:30 this morning on their way to New York. They were generally exhausted by the long stay in the harbor, but expressed warm praise for the manner in which the officers of the boat looked out for them after the accident.

The passengers of the boat practically all except the employees of the boat were asleep when the steamer grounded, but heard of the disaster and the officers and crew acted nobly. The commandant, Queen from Newport reached the scene at 2:30 this morning, and the passengers were transferred to her, and had a cold breakfast by a special train for New York. None of the passengers or crew was injured.

### REV. JOHN JASPER'S FUNERAL.

Famous Colored Preacher Laid to Rest at Richmond.

RICHMOND, Va., April 4.—The funeral of Rev. John Jasper, the famous negro preacher, occurred today at Mount Zion Church, of which he was pastor. The body lay in state in the heavily draped church all day yesterday. The services today were attended by an enormous crowd. A portion of the edifice is reserved for white people, and the colored people were seated in the front of the church.

Prominent among the speakers were those whom the old man had antagonized during his life. The services consisted of hymns, sacred music, a Scripture lesson from the epistles, and a prayer. The Rev. Jasper was once an enlisted man himself, and in consequence, it is also looked upon as an honor to the enlisted men of the army and navy who were once an enlisted man himself, and in consequence, it is also looked upon as an honor to the enlisted men of the army and navy who were once an enlisted man himself.

The report recommends an annuity of \$20,000 to the Duke of Cornwall and York, \$10,000 to the Duchess of Cornwall and York, and \$5,000 to each of the king's sons. The report also recommends an annuity of \$10,000 to the Duke of Cornwall and York, \$5,000 to the Duchess of Cornwall and York, and \$2,500 to each of the king's sons.

The proposals for the civil list show a net increase of \$67,000. The report also recommends an annuity of \$20,000 to the Duke of Cornwall and York, \$10,000 to the Duchess of Cornwall and York, and \$5,000 to each of the king's sons.

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# HONORS TO CHAFFEE

Allies in Pekin Celebrate His Promotion to Major General.

INVITED TO MANY RECEPTIONS

He Seems to Be the Most Popular Man in China.

## DUE TO HIS PERSONALITY

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

PEKIN, February 14.—The past week has practically been devoted socially in Pekin to General Chaffee in honor of his promotion to the rank of major general in the American army. The American camp at the Temple of Agriculture held the reception in his honor at the club, which every officer and American civilian in Pekin was present to congratulate him, and a good deal of enthusiasm was displayed.

United States Minister and Mrs. Conger gave a dinner party Saturday night, February 9, in General Chaffee's honor, after which he was a smoker at the American Club, which was a very gay affair, and for foreign officers. Owing to the dinner it was late before General Chaffee put in his appearance, shortly after 11 o'clock. As soon as it was known that he was coming through the gates preparations were made to receive him in style and an international guard of honor was formed, the commandant of the city, which was the British General Richardson, and afterwards "He is a Jolly Good Fellow."

General Richardson led the cheering which followed the closing bars of music to the general, and the cheering was very loud and which was very loud and which was very loud.

The French minister and Mrs. Pichon gave a luncheon party in Gen. Chaffee's honor Sunday night, and several other dinners and receptions had been and still are projected for a week to come.

The enlisted men of the command are unforgetfully doing the promotion. To them Gen. Chaffee is the exemplification of all that a good soldier should be. Another thing which pleases them is the fact that he is a native of their own country, and in consequence, it is also looked upon as an honor to the enlisted men of the army and navy who were once an enlisted man himself, and in consequence, it is also looked upon as an honor to the enlisted men of the army and navy who were once an enlisted man himself.

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# CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY

HEARING TODAY BEFORE JUDGE SCOTT OF POLICE COURT.

Defendants Accused of Extorting Money From Thomas H. Pickford—Statements of Witnesses.

Ferdinand Hopp and James Hudson were this afternoon arraigned in the Police Court before Judge Scott on the charge of conspiracy, in that they "did, amongst themselves conspire, combine, confederate and agree together falsely and fraudulently to cheat and defraud Thomas H. Pickford of large sums of money, and in pursuance of the said conspiracy and malicious conspiracy the said Ferdinand Hopp and the said James Hudson did obtain from the said Pickford \$200 in cash, a note for \$5,000, payable in thirty days, and a receipt for \$250."

Mr. Thomas H. Pickford, who was the first witness to give testimony in the case, was a visit made by Hopp to his store last week in reference to having received a note and void an indictment found against him at Rockville for alleged arson, the full particulars of which have been already printed in The Star.

Mr. Pickford said that after some talk with Hopp the latter said he could fix the case for \$2,500, the understanding being that for this sum Hudson, who was an important officer for the state before the grand jury at Rockville, would leave the District and fall to appear at the trial of Pickford and other interested parties. Witness also stated that last Saturday evening he went to police headquarters and had a long conference with the chief of police, who was the chief of the police.

The Detective's Statement. Detective Helan testified substantially that Inspector Boardman laid the case before the district attorney, and acting on instructions from that official he and Detective McNamee were put to work on the case. It was understood by the detectives that either Hopp or Hudson, or both, would be the person to whom the money was to be paid, and that the money was to be paid to the person to whom the money was to be paid.

The meeting was to have taken place in the office of the detective, but it was postponed to a later date. The meeting was to have taken place in the office of the detective, but it was postponed to a later date.

Hopp arranged to see Hudson yesterday and close the deal. In the afternoon Hopp called on Hudson, who was in the office of the detective, and they had a long talk. Hopp said that he had a large sum of money, and that he was willing to pay it to Hudson, who was in the office of the detective.

Two hundred dollars in cash, which Hopp handed to Hudson, was in notes, which had been marked by the detective, who had also taken the numbers. The money was a paper, which it is understood, Hudson was to sign, stating that Mr. Pickford was a man of honor, and that he was willing to pay him the money.

Hopp's Version. Mr. Hopp gave his version of the charges to a Star reporter as follows: "I was simply acting for Mr. Pickford in this affair. It is untrue that I saw Mr. Pickford Saturday night. I saw a man who was asking me to come to his place, and he explained to me that he wanted me to do him a great favor. He said he was a man of honor, and that he was willing to pay me the money."

"I replied that it was a delicate matter, and that I could not do it. He said that he was a man of honor, and that he was willing to pay me the money. He said that he was a man of honor, and that he was willing to pay me the money."

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# OFFICE BUILDING PROJECT

STRUCTURE TEN STORIES IN HEIGHT TO BE ERECTED.

Steel Frame, Outer Walls to Be of Granite, Light-Colored Stone and Brick.

Plans have been prepared for an office building which the Messrs. Tysowski contemplate erecting at the northeast corner of 15th and G streets northwest. It is intended to cover the entire site which has a frontage of twenty-eight feet on 15th street and seventy-two feet on G street.

The new structure will rise to a height of ten stories, and will be built of steel frame, with the outer walls of granite to the basement, stone of a light shade through the first story, and the balance light-colored brick. As the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has a long-term lease on the first floor, where its ticket office is located, the consent of that corporation was necessary before any change could be made.

A temporary office will be secured by the railroad company while the new structure is being put up. The arrangement of the first story will be made to suit the needs of the company. There will be an entrance to the new structure at the corner where it is now, but that will be only to the ticket office of the railroad company. Access to the upper stories will be gained by a lobby leading to the elevator and staircase.

The entire 15th street front will be available, as the present entrance to the upper floors in the building will not be retained in the new structure. All the railroad office will be together with the exception of the ticket office, which will be on the east side of the building, and will be a part of the building.

The design of this building, it is understood, is being prepared by Mr. Colin Studd, the passenger agent of the southeastern railroad, who is the architect of the building. The design of this building, it is understood, is being prepared by Mr. Colin Studd, the passenger agent of the southeastern railroad, who is the architect of the building.

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# FINANCE AND TRADE

Stocks Took Another Great Boom in New York.

BROKERS FULL OF BUSINESS

Unable to Attend to the Wants of Customers.

## GENERAL MARKET REPORTS

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

NEW YORK, April 4.—Initial transactions in today's stock market were excited and confused. The volume of business equaled, and occasionally exceeded, the capacity of both commission houses and the exchange. The floor members of the larger firms had orders with orders, and in many instances buying orders were larger than those of old clients. Specialists accepted business with the understanding that they would do what they could, but would not be responsible for defective execution.

In some instances orders given prior to the opening were not reported until the close of the market, and such conditions the price movement was wild and erratic. Many houses were pronounced optimistic, but advised caution because the market defied analysis and accidents might happen.

Deals were reported in all sections, but the only known transaction of this character was the Burlington-Northern Pacific combination, and these stocks were given excellent support. Rock Island was advanced by a large order, and in consequence demand, and rumor said that the Missouri Pacific was in quest of the property as a necessary addition to the Southwestern line. The Burlington-Northern Pacific combination was given excellent support.

The price broke under 150, under a big reading, however, and was checked by new buying by strong houses. New York Central and Pennsylvania were also advanced, and rumors of a more liberal offer for St. Paul were reflected in higher prices for those shares. Every investment stock was in demand, and the market was generally bullish.

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